

22 April 1969

MEMORANDUM

1. This responds to the request for extrapolated data on Soviet forces for the 1974-75 period, assuming sustained high rates of expansion of major military missions.

2. The data are illustrative of levels that could be reached if the Soviets were willing to devote the resources to them and accept the penalties this would entail in other sectors of the economy.

3. These are not intelligence projections which involve balanced judgments on Soviet capabilities, requirements and intentions, but simple extrapolations of probable capabilities to continue to deploy more of the kinds of forces now in existence or now being built. If the Soviets were to exploit their capabilities to the fullest, were not concerned with stimulating US counteraction, and were willing to depress economic growth and living standards, forces of this order probably would be feasible.

~~SECRET~~

